

**U.S. Department of Energy**

**Ohio Field Office  
Columbus Closure Project  
1425 Plain City-Georgesville Road, SR 142  
P.O. Box 200  
West Jefferson, OH 43162  
May 1, 2003**



Mr. N. J. Gantos  
Program Manager, BCLDP  
Battelle Memorial Institute  
505 King Avenue  
Columbus, OH 43201

Dear Mr. Gantos:

**SUBJECT: TRANSURANIC WASTE STAGING AND SHIPMENT**

The current situation regarding shipments of transuranic (TRU) waste and the pending transition to a new D&D contract require the development of alternative methods of waste staging and shipment. It is still the Department's intent to ship TRU waste to Hanford for interim storage prior to final disposal at Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP). However, the shipping schedule continues to experience delays out of control of the project. In order to maintain the critical path schedule, Battelle shall design, construct, and outfit at the West Jefferson site a suitable "staging area" for the TRU waste, separate from the project buildings and from areas which will be placed under control of the new closure contractor. It is anticipated that the staging area will comprise multiple shielded storage units on a pad sufficient to support their weight. The staging area and storage units shall be sized sufficient for the expected number of TRU waste drums and boxes, and meet all applicable requirements for: access (loading and unloading); security; weather protection, and spill control.

The staging area shall be available in time to transfer TRU drums from JN-1 hot cell building to support the transition to the new closure contractor. Once all shipments are completed to Hanford, the staging area shall be removed, and all re-useable equipment (including shielded storage units) shall be excessed through appropriate inventory management procedures.

Mr. N. J. Gantos

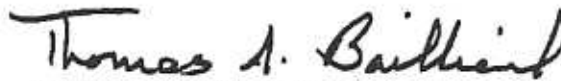
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In addition, Battelle shall develop, in conjunction with DOE's Carlsbad Field Office, a simplified loading system for the RH-72B shipping cask. This activity shall include loading/unloading demonstrations at West Jefferson, Hanford, and the WIPP site. Following the demonstration, the contractor shall schedule and ship the existing high-plutonium TRU waste drums to Hanford for storage.

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding these instructions.

Sincerely,



Thomas A. Baillieul, Director  
Columbus Environmental Management Project

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cc.

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